

1 COVE PARK

Originally an "oxbow" of "The Long Tidal (i.e. Connecticut) River," Wethersfield Cove is ten feet above sea level and forty miles from Long Island Sound. Thomas Deming built his shipyard on the banks of this natural harbor, where he launched the *Tryall* — the first ship made in Connecticut — in 1649.



2 COVE WAREHOUSE

Once part of a thriving commercial center, the warehouse — now housing a Wethersfield Historical Society maritime exhibit — contains reminders of the West Indies trade that flourished in Wethersfield from 1650 to 1830. Merchants exported lumber, grain, onions, salted beef, fish and pork in exchange for salt, sugar, molasses and rum from the Caribbean.

3 THE SOLOMON WELLES HOUSE

Built in 1774 for a descendant of colonial governor Thomas Welles and later used as the warden's house for the former state prison, this elegant house overlooks Wethersfield Cove and the adjacent Cove Park. Hartford's skyline is visible on the north horizon, but worlds away. While not open to tours, it can be rented for special occasions.



4 PLACES TO EAT

Whether it's brunch at a sidewalk café, ice cream on a hot summer day, or fine dining at a 200-year-old inn, Wethersfield has choices to please all tastes. Join the locals at their favorite gathering places: *Mainly Tea, Narcissis Chocolate, The Spicy Green Bean Deli, Patty Cakes, Village Pizza, Main Street Creamery, Old Town Café, J. Michaels Tavern.*



5 MAIN STREET SHOPS

From artwork and antiques, to custom-designed jewelry and handmade crafts, you'll find these — and other unique treasures — at a variety of small shops along Main Street. Browse to your heart's content at *Antiques on Main, Heart of the Country, Judy K Ceramics, Sit 'n' Knit, Sandra Wakeen Gallery* and *Neill Walsh Goldsmiths* — to name a few.



6 AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE

In the 1850s, Wethersfield seed companies sold packets of garden seeds to homesteaders who followed the westward expansion of the rail lines. Today, companies like *Hart Seed, McCue Gardens and Comstock, Ferre*, carry on Wethersfield's long agricultural tradition, offering a wide variety of flowers, shrubs, seeds, garden supplies and gifts.



7 OLD ACADEMY

Serious scholars and history students will enjoy perusing the archives at the Old Academy, built as a school in 1804 and now home to the Wethersfield Historical Society. The famous educator Joseph Emerson operated a female seminary there. It also served as Wethersfield's Town Hall and Library.

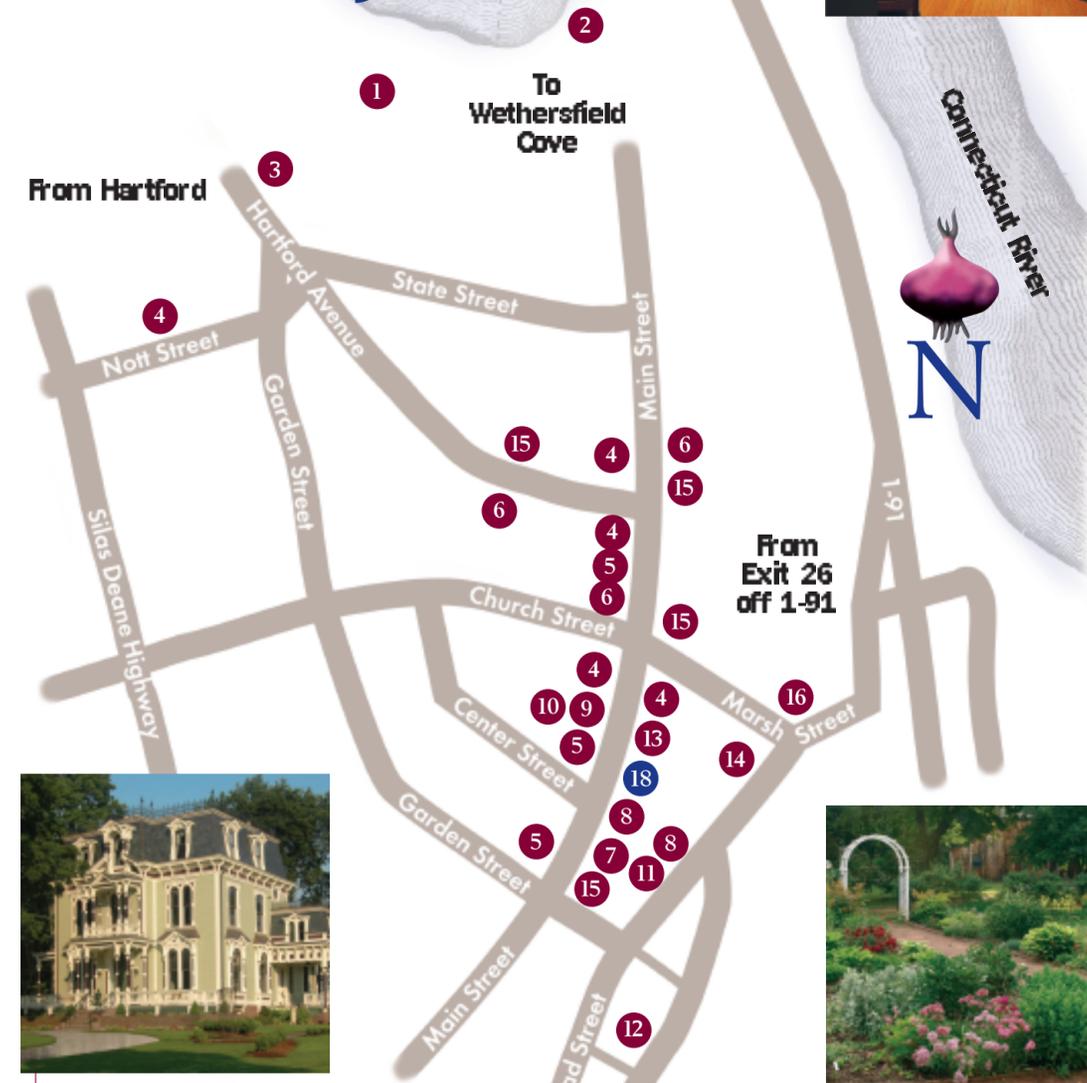


REVOLUTIONARY WAR TIMELINE

Wethersfield played a strategic role in the fight for independence. Silas Deane's contact with France provided military officers and supplies. The alliance with France brought the French navy to American waters and the French commander Rochambeau to Wethersfield where he and Washington mapped the campaign that ended in victory.

1775	Spring 1775	Spring & Summer 1776	Summer & Fall 1777	February 1778	Summer & Fall 1780	May 1781	Summer & Fall 1781	1783
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Lexington Alarm - The Battle of Bunker Hill - Washington dined at the Deane house 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silas Deane sailed for France to procure military supplies and enlist experienced officers - The Declaration of Independence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Military supplies received from France - Victory at the Battle of Saratoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silas Deane, Ben Franklin and Arthur Lee signed the Treaty of Alliance with France - France was first to recognize the American colonies as an independent nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rochambeau and over 5,000 French troops arrived at Newport, Rhode Island - Washington paused in Wethersfield before meeting Rochambeau in Hartford 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Washington and Rochambeau met in Wethersfield to plan the campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French troops marched across Connecticut to join the Continental Army in New York - The two armies marched to Yorktown, Virginia, where they and the French Navy defeated the British 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The British surrendered and signed the Treaty of Paris

Historic Wethersfield



18 WETHERSFIELD MUSEUM & VISITORS CENTER

As the first stop on your visit, the museum offers a permanent exhibition on Wethersfield history, changing exhibits and a museum shop. There is a winter music series, a spring lecture series and free outdoor concerts in August, all sponsored by The Wethersfield Historical Society.



8 LODGING

An overnight stay at the charming *Chester Bulkeley House Bed and Breakfast* (right) or the *Silas W. Robbins House Bed and Breakfast* (above) will have you sipping your morning latte virtually in the center of our nearly 380-year-old village. If contemporary lodging is your choice, there are several hotels and motels nearby.



9 WEBB-DEANE-STEVENS MUSEUM

Revolutionary War diplomat Silas Deane's portrait (left) hangs in his home on Main Street, one of three remarkable 18th century houses that comprise the Museum. These homes — all with important stories to tell about Wethersfield's rich past — capture the vitality of our nation's formative years.



In May 1781, Washington and the French commander Rochambeau met in the Webb House. Wallace Nutting commissioned murals in the south parlor (left) to commemorate that meeting and the victory at Yorktown.



LIVING with HISTORY

Col. John Chester Fife & Drum Corps — one of the oldest in New England — performs in many parades, musters and festivals throughout the year.

17 SPECIAL EVENTS
(Seasonal)

"Scarecrows Along Main Street" — a fall tradition sponsored by the Old Wethersfield Shopkeepers Association — is one of many special events that take place throughout the year in Old Wethersfield. Others include antique and craft shows, lectures, auctions, Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival/USA and the popular "Cornfest" sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.



ANCIENT BURYING GROUND

The quaint, often poetic inscriptions found on the headstones in this historic burial ground tell poignant tales of the demise of loved ones. The skills of a dozen different Connecticut Valley stone carvers are represented here. The earliest one — Leonard Chester's table stone — dates from 1648.



15 PLACES OF WORSHIP

Historic Wethersfield celebrates its diversity with a variety of historically and architecturally significant houses of worship. These include Temple Beth Torah, Sacred Heart, Trinity Episcopal (shown here) and The First Church of Christ in Wethersfield.



BUTTOLPH-WILLIAMS HOUSE

Visit this house built for Benjamin Belden around 1715. It provided the setting for Elizabeth George Speare's award-winning novel, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, which depicts a young woman's encounter with superstition and intolerance in 17th century Wethersfield. The restored kitchen contains an extensive collection of period cooking equipment.



13 HURLBUT-DUNHAM HOUSE

This handsome brick house is filled with original furnishings, wallpapers and painted ceilings of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when Jane and Howard Dunham, social and civic leaders of their day, made it their home.



BROAD STREET GREEN

Beautiful even in winter, but dazzling after an ice storm, the Broad Street Green — surrounded by elegant and stately old homes — is where early settlers grazed livestock. Today, it's host to dozens of magnificent specimen trees — elms, oaks, sycamores, an 1836 copper beech — some as high as 15 stories tall!



11 FARM STANDS

19th century scientists discovered what 17th century Native Americans already knew: that Wethersfield's alluvial soil is among the best in the state. Local farm stands, such as *Anderson Farm*, offer native-grown seasonal fruits and vegetables June through October.

